

AMENDMENT

Serial No. 08/454,529
Atty. Docket No. GP004-16.DV4

64 and 82 and Examples 8 and 10 of the specification.) Thus, this amendment to claims 490 and 491 does not introduce new matter nor does it raise new issues requiring a further search.

Claims 539 and 540 have been amended herein to recite a target region corresponding to bases "450-490" instead of "405-490" of *E. coli* 16S rRNA or the encoding DNA. This amendment is consistent with originally filed claim 95 and Example 9 of the specification.

Claims 555 and 556 have been amended herein to recite a target region corresponding to bases "980-1030" instead of "980-1050" of *E. coli* 16S rRNA or the encoding DNA. This amendment is consistent with originally filed claims 216 and 272 and Examples 18 and 21 of the specification.

Claims 577 and 578 have been amended herein to recite a target region corresponding to bases "1155-1190" instead of "1150-1200" of *E. coli* 23S rRNA or the encoding DNA. This amendment is consistent with originally filed claims 64 and 149 and Example 4 of the specification.

Claims 613 and 614 have been amended herein to recite a target region corresponding to bases "335-395" instead of "270-395" of *E. coli* 23S rRNA or the encoding DNA. This amendment is consistent with originally filed claims 117 and 209 and Examples 10 and 17 of the specification.

The claims are further amended herein to make non-substantive editorial changes and to address the Examiner's rejections in the manner described below.

Interview Summary

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for granting the undersigned a telephonic interview on August 31, 2005. The issues discussed with the Examiner are fully reflected in the above amendments to the claims and in the responses to the Examiner's rejections set forth below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 486, 487, 512, 513, 528 and 529 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants submit that this rejection is rendered moot by amendments to the claims herein, which

TNT SUM. OK
AM, 10-2-05